



the gateway

est. 1913

The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Student Newspaper

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Issue 58



The UNO softball team won its first Division II National Championship in Salem, Va., May 21. They were congratulated by about 100 well-wishers upon their return to Omaha at Eppley Airfield.

photo by Chris Machan

UNO'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

Cory A. Carlson

On May 21, UNO defeated Lewis University 4-0 to capture the Division II National Championship of College Softball at the Moyer Sports Complex in Salem, Va.

It was the Mavs' first national championship since the 1975 squad (17-7) captured the top spot led by now Assistant Athletic Director Connie Claussen.

UNO was greeted with an hour-long tribute at Eppley Airfield a day after the championship game. About 100 well-wishers and media members were on hand to toast the champs, including Athletic Director Bob Danenhauer.

"It's a great day for UNO, and we couldn't ask for better ambassadors for a university than what they showed out there," Danenhauer said.

The Mavericks (54-6) finished with the best winning percentage in school history at .900 and made an emotional charge through the loser's bracket for the title. It was just the fourth 50-win season for the program and the first under second-year coach Jeanne Tostenson.

After losing in the NCAA regionals last year, this team used that as a motivational factor to go further in this year's tournament

and eventually win it all.

"Watching everybody work so hard throughout the season and giving 110 percent effort all day, every day was just amazing," Senior hurler Michelle Manthei said.

Anchored by the right arms of sophomore Krista Unger (23-3) and Manthei (28-3), UNO avenged four of its six losses during its championship run.

"We always said we would

never get beat by a team twice and we didn't," Manthei said.

Unger, freshman Sarah Scheppers and juniors Kelly Moats and Kelsey Duckworth were named to the All-Tournament Team.

"It was an emotional week, but the players did a fantastic job and never doubted themselves for a second," Coach Tostenson said.

see Champs, page 9

Prucha becomes president

Jennifer Peterson

Studio Art and Political Science major Mallory Prucha was appointed vice president of Student Senate May 24, but her tenure only lasted until yesterday when she assumed the role of student president/regent.

Former Student President/Regent Will Marunda formally resigned yesterday, automatically making Prucha the new leader of the student body.

Marunda will be leaving to attend graduate school at Texas A&M before the end of this month.

Prucha, formerly chief administrative officer, has been active in the Student Senate for two years and was nominated for the position of vice president after former Vice President Adam Wright resigned.

Marunda introduced Prucha's appointment to the senate, saying she was "more than qualified."

A unanimous approval vote by the senate assured Prucha's vice presidential appointment.

Prucha addressed the senate, noting that obtaining the position had been a goal of hers since she first became involved with the organization. Prucha also shared

her confidence in a successful term, citing her time with the senate.

"As chief administrator, I had a lot of the responsibilities that the vice president would have had," Prucha said.

Prucha will appoint a new vice president at her discretion and fulfill her term as student president/regent through January, when elections are held.

Prucha has already set goals for the coming semester.

"I hope to fill some of the senate seats left vacant," she said.

"It's just a matter of getting out there and letting students know what we do."

Another key issue of the Senate meeting was resolution SR 00/01-13, a proposal to purchase eight Pentium III processor computers from the Peter Kiewit Institute at a reduced cost.

The computers would be used in the senate office, a purchase Marunda calls a "major office improvement."

The resolution was passed after several slight amendments.

The Senate also approved the Maverick Paintball Constitution and appointed Davedana Ray as international student senate director.

The Senate will not convene again until June 14.

Mallory Prucha took over as student president/regent after Will Marunda officially resigned yesterday. Prucha was appointed vice president May 24 replacing Adam Wright, making her next in line for the president's position.

Professor council-bound

David M. Johnson

UNO professor Franklin Titus Thompson III is a 47-year-old African-American male. He is, of all things, a Republican living in a West Omaha district where 95 percent of the residents are white. Rather than simply trying to "fit in" with his neighbors, Thompson decided he would rather lead them.

How's that?

Thompson decided he would run for the Omaha City Council seat for District 6 against fellow Republican Andy Winstrom. Despite the fact Winstrom raised three times the amount of money to run his campaign, the people elected Thompson to the seat on May 15 by a 58 to 42 percent margin.

"This victory was nice to see," Thompson said. "People saw past the color and looked at my character, my heart and my platform. It also took the 'stereotype' monkey off of West Omaha's back. My victory helped proved the value of people."

This was a hotly contested campaign city wide, grabbing more media time and coverage than the race for governor. In the end, only two council members — District 1's Mark Kraft and District 2's Frank Brown —

District 6 candidate-elect Franklin Thompson will divide his time between UNO and the council

retained their seats. Even Mayor Hal Daub fell in the election to challenger Mike Fahey.

Many people said they were sending a message to local government, and that they were tired of the bickering and infighting between the mayor's office and the council.

"Friction happens with any government," Thompson said. "The difference is how it will be handled. I believe this new group of council members will be more professional."

see Thompson, page 14

photo by Josh Williamson

Custodian, avid Mav fan, passes away

T.J. Accola

Memorial services were held May 17 for UNO employee Gerald Funk, who passed away May 13 of injuries sustained in a highway accident three months ago.

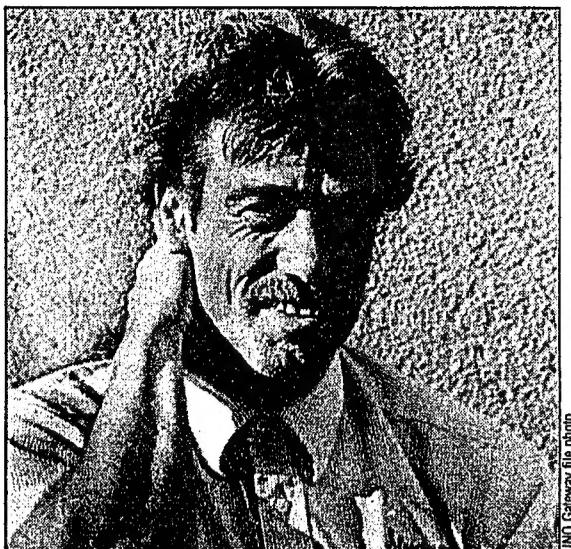
Funk was a noted presence on the UNO campus since he first began work as a custodian in 1994. An avid Mavericks fan, "Jerry" was a fixture at many university sporting events.

But unlike any ordinary fan, Funk was known to go above and beyond the call of duty when it came to encouraging his beloved Mavs.

Russ Kleeb, Funk's supervisor at the Milo Bail Student Center, recalled his zest for the Mav football team.

When the Mavs would lose a game, Kleeb said, Funk would do 50 push-ups on the 50-yard line at the team's Monday morning practice.

Before the start of basketball season, Funk placed a life-size cardboard cutout of



Custodian Jerry Funk passed away last month. He is remembered as an enthusiastic follower of UNO athletics.

UNO Gateway file photo

basketball great Michael Jordan at the top of the student seating section at Sapp Fieldhouse.

But Funk wasn't just well-known in the athletic circles. His friendly demeanor was also appreciated across the campus.

"I don't think there was anyone Jerry couldn't be friends with," Kleeb said.

Johanns nixes Engineering Building renovation

T.J. Accola

A \$3 million plan to renovate the former Engineering Building into the new headquarters of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service was vetoed by Gov. Mike Johanns at a May 14 state legislative session.

The plan, NU's top construction priority in its budget request, was intended to consolidate the college's offices, which are currently scattered among eight different locations.

Johanns said the plan, which would require an additional \$9.25 million between 2003 and 2005, was an "unacceptably large future commitment."

University representatives had hoped to receive at least \$500,000 after the

Legislature opted to challenge \$3.5 million of Johann's cuts, but a 34-2 vote fully upheld Johann's decision.

Plans for the renovation will be put on hold until the 2002-2003 fiscal year, when additional funds may become available. The college, with 70 faculty members and 1,600 students, offers nationally renowned programs in criminal justice, gerontology, public administration, social work and urban studies.

In addition to vetoing the construction plan, Johanns also cut an additional \$1.3 million from NU's operating budget. However, the university system will still have a 6.4 percent budget increase for 2001-2002 and a 6.7 percent increase for 2002-2003.

UNMC HIV clinic receives donation

T.J. Accola

A sizable gift to the University of Nebraska Foundation will benefit HIV and AIDS patients at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

A "substantial donation" from the Terry K. Watanabe Charitable Trust, announced May 24 at University Hospital, will aid in further developing HIV and AIDS research, education and services at UNMC.

In addition, the gift will provide for the creation of a distinguished chair at UNMC and an HIV/AIDS resource center on the second floor of the Lied Transplant Center.

As per the donor's request, the official amount of the donation will remain

undisclosed, but at least \$1 million is required to establish a chair at the center, said Rob Crouch of the University of Nebraska Foundation.

The Terry K. Watanabe Distinguished Chair for HIV/AIDS Research and Care will give UNMC's program national prestige, as well as aid in securing grant programs and researchers. The Terry K. Watanabe HIV/AIDS Resource Center will offer educational information and provide a setting in which patients and caseworkers can meet confidentially.

Watanabe, a native Omahan who retired as president of Oriental Trading Company last year, is a longtime advocate of HIV and AIDS research.

Around the state News from other campuses

T.J. Accola

Bellevue University

A new requirement has been placed on any student hoping to graduate with an MBA degree. The Signature Series is a three-course curriculum designed to examine various social concepts of Western civilization. Students will study the writings of such noted philosophers as Plato, Friedrich Nietzsche and John Locke, among others.

Chadron State College

Drew Brees, the second quarterback taken in this year's NFL pro draft, was among the celebrity guests at the Seventh Annual Don Beebe Golf Classic at Ridgeview Country Club May 25 and 26. The event, which also featured former Buffalo Bills players Steve Tasker and Chris Mohr and Green Bay Packers wide receiver Bill Schroeder, was to benefit the Chadron State College athletic program.

Creighton University

Ground-breaking began Monday on the university's new \$48 million science complex, including a five-story building which will connect the university's already-existing science buildings. Officials hope to move into the new building, which will contain smaller classrooms, larger offices and newer research facilities, by late 2002.

Doane College

A pair of royal mute swans have made the main entrance to the college's new dormitory their new home. The swans, which ordinarily nest at nearby Doane Lake, have decided the busy entrance area is a more suitable home for their 12 eggs. Doane Lake has been home to swans ever since late Crete businessman and former college trustee J.E. Pallett donated a group

of them more than 50 years ago.

Metropolitan Community College

The college's board has reversed its decision to censure member Mike Kennedy. The board voted in March 2000 to censure Kennedy and call for his resignation, citing violation of the board's ethics policy. Kennedy was accused of violating policy by providing internal e-mails to a reporter and discussing board matters with the press.

University of Nebraska-Kearney

The NU Board of Regents has approved \$500,000 in improvements to UNK dorms, including new furniture and carpeting. Also approved by the board was a five-year contract with Cable USA Inc., which will provide cable television service at UNK dorms.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

UNL stood in for the University of Kansas as scenes were shot last week for "About Schmidt," starring Jack Nicholson. The Lied Center was adorned with Kansas blue and red, while more than 200 extras were used.

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Two UNMC researchers have applied for a patent for a vaccine they are developing to treat Parkinson's disease. Dr. Howard Gendelman and Eric Benner plan to begin testing their vaccine on mice in three to five months, and on humans three to five years from now. Existing drugs treat, but do not prevent, Parkinson's disease, a muscular disorder which afflicts nearly 1.5 million U.S. citizens. The pair's vaccine would aid in halting the progression of the disease.

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UNO receives federal funds for low-income and disabled students

T.J. Accola

UNO is one of 13 Nebraska schools to receive part of more than \$3 million in federal funding for low-income and disabled students.

Under the TRIO Student Support Services Program, the U.S. Department of Education has designated \$241,220 for UNO. The Student Support Services Program is designed to assist first-generation college students, low-income students and students with disabilities.

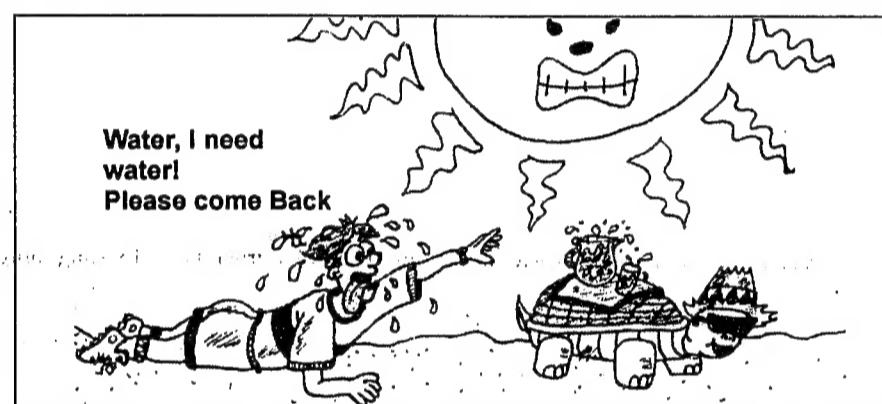
According to the U.S. Department of Education, the SSS Program "provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their postsecondary education."

In 2000, more than \$183 million was awarded nationally to provide more than 175,000 students with tutoring, mentoring and academic, financial and personal counseling.

Nearly 800 institutions were given grants in 2000, with an average of \$230,564 each.

Among the other Nebraska colleges awarded grants:

Central Community College	\$190,000
Chadron State College	\$190,000
Creighton University	\$219,337
Doane College	\$211,508
Metropolitan Community College	\$267,317
Nebraska Indian Community College	\$224,384
Peru State College	\$200,903
Southeast Community College	\$190,000
University of Nebraska at Kearney	\$219,813
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	\$383,782
Wayne State College	\$224,112
Western Nebraska Community College	\$259,321



Stay safe this summer... Preventing dehydration

David M. Johnson

We will soon be in the throes of summer — heat, humidity and relentless sunshine. Although this combination is perfect for all of those outdoor activities that makes this time of year fun, it does come with dangerous side effects.

The most obvious, and most common, health problem seen in summer is dehydration. Not only trained athletes, but everyday Frisbee players, golfers, swimmers and softball players can quickly succumb to dehydration.

What are the signs?

It is not a good idea to rely just on your thirst mechanism. According to Buck Tilton, M.S. and Frank Hubbell, D.O., authors of the book, "Medicine For The Backcountry," the normal thirst mechanism can be overwhelmed or overridden when the fluid loss is rapid.

"One of the first things we ask our athletes is how much they are drinking," UNO Assistant Athletic Trainer Rusty McKune said. "Then we want to know the color of their urine. If their urine is clear, they are okay. If it is turning yellow, the athlete is getting dehydrated."

Another danger sign is cramping of large muscle groups.

"If an athlete is cramping up in the calves, quadriceps or abdominal muscle groups, we know dehydration is taking place," McKune said.

Other signs of dehydration include decreased coordination, fatigue and impaired judgment. Left untreated, dehydration may evolve into heat stress, heat stroke or death.

"Water and sports drinks are excellent sources to help combat dehydration," McKune said. "The latest reports I've seen show that sports drinks do not contain too much salt, but may have too much sugar. If you are worried about your sugar intake and its effect, I suggest diluting the sports drinks in half. Energy bars help, but they too have sugar."

Salt tablets, however, are not recommended.

"Just salt your food before exercising," McKune said. "Eat some French fries and ketchup. That will give you plenty of salt."

Tilton and Hubbell gives these five rules of thumb for combating the heat:

1. Stay well hydrated and eat salty snacks.
2. Rest often, out of the sun.
3. Wear clothing that allows evaporation and a brimmed hat or cap.
4. Give dehydration patients lots of water with a teaspoon of salt per liter. Let them rest.
5. Cool heat stroke patients as rapidly as possible. Douse with water, fan and massage extremities. Evacuate as soon as possible.

Getting out of the city ... Day trip to Glenwood, Iowa

David M. Johnson

Sometimes you just have to get away from the city, from its exhaust fumes, its endless road construction projects and its herd of far too persistent telemarketers who want to sell you siding at 10 p.m.

Sometimes you just have to get away. This week I chose to get away to Glenwood, Iowa.

Glenwood is a picturesque little town, nestled in the Loess Hills. It sits four miles east of I-29 on I-34, 20 minutes south of Omaha. Although it is the Mills County seat, Glenwood is a bedroom community for the most part, providing an ever-growing number of new homes for those people who work in the Omaha metro but would rather live in the country.

The downtown area of Glenwood is typical of many small Iowa communities — most of the shops surround the main square in the center of the town. In Glenwood, the main square area is home to the Mills County Courthouse. A 2000 town renovation project brought beautiful new lighting and sidewalks to the downtown. There is more than enough parking.

Just northeast of town center is a scenic nine-hole golf course. The greens are well kept and the fairways are forgiving. Fairly flat, the course offers all a chance to walk. A new driving range put in this year gives everyone the opportunity to practice a few drives before hitting the links.

Glenwood's claim to summer, however, rests with its primary attraction — the Glenwood State Park.

Of all the parks I've seen in this neck of the woods, Glenwood's is my favorite. Its two small lakes are home to dozens of Canadian geese, ducks and swans. An island in the

middle of one of the lakes houses three swan nesting sites. A bench-lined sidewalk encircles the lake providing passage for walkers, joggers, cyclists and rollerbladers.

There are picnic tables aplenty (many under cover), playground amusements for kids of all ages, and lots of room to throw the football or Frisbee. New gardens are put in each year, making this a living, growing park.

For history buffs, the park is also home to the Mills County Museum, which is open on weekends during the summer. For just \$2 for adults, \$1 for children, you can slide back in time and experience life as it was in 1850's Iowa. Five museum out-buildings (included in the price) show an old, one-man jail, a working barn, a fully furnished, one-room schoolhouse, a building full of antique farm and fire fighting vehicles and a real railroad caboose. The caboose is perfect for family photos.

But, the main feature of the Glenwood State Park is the Davies Amphitheater, a wonderfully constructed, modern theater on the south end of the park, snuggled within a forest of pines.

From June 10 to Aug. 17, the Davies Amphitheater will put on 15 outdoor shows. The USAF Looking Glass orchestra gets things going on June 10 at 7:30 p.m. This is a free concert.

Other headliners this year include The USAF Concert Band, The Rumbles, USAF Nightwing, Celebration Iowa (formerly the State Fair Singers and Jazz Band), Streetside ('50s and '60s favorites), the Avi8tors (tribute to the music of WWII), Prairie Cats Swing Band and Blackwater.

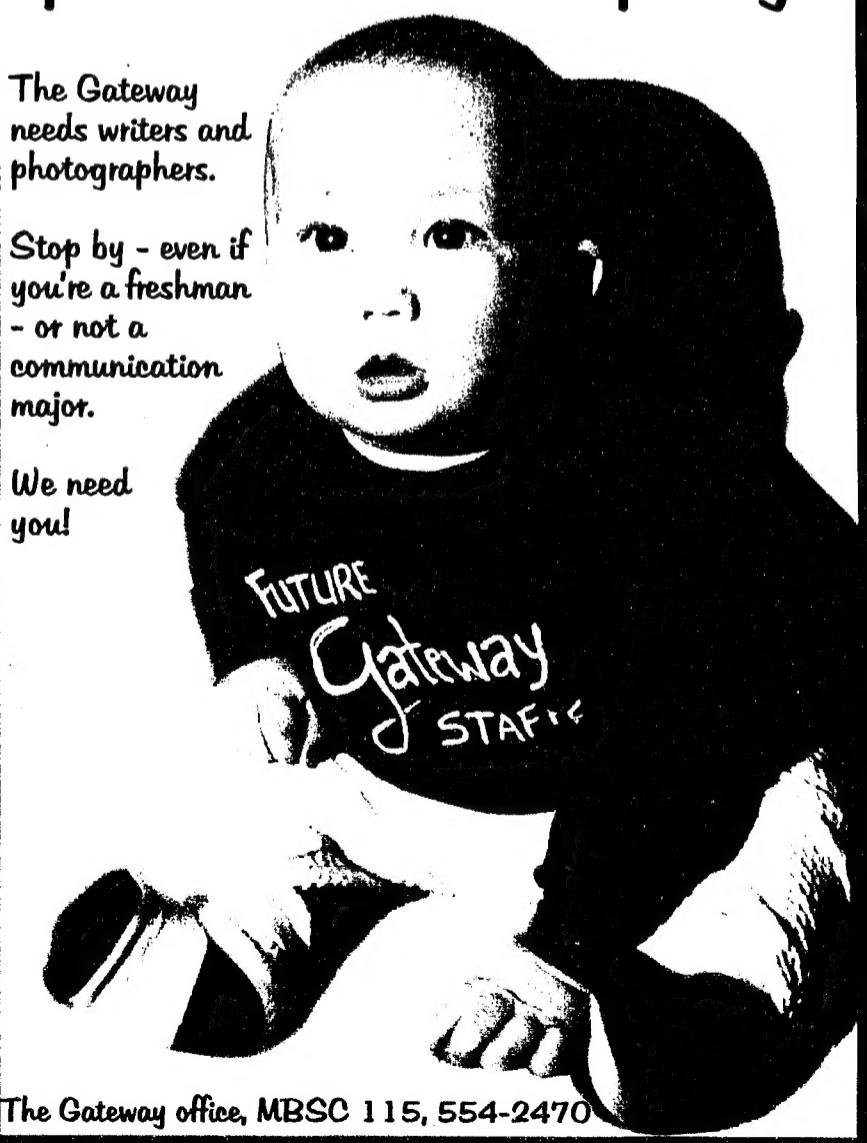
The Gold Card Family Membership of \$25 gets you, your spouse and all your kids into all summer 15 shows. For more information, call 527-3334.

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opinions&editorials

Toys or treasure?

Remember those Snacktime Cabbage Patch dolls that were recalled a few years ago because they were eating children's hair instead of their specially designed play food?

I've always regretted never buying one. Not because I have an unfulfilled scalping fantasy, but because they look like so much fun. The dolls' mouths actually move as they "eat."

I still have the Cabbage Patch Kid I played with as a child. Junila's red yarn hair is a little wild, she's missing one of her socks, her face is slightly scuffed, and her hands are colored from years of loyalty. Now she occupies a spot of honor on my bookcase.

Disclaimer: I'm not one of those people who feels the need to surround herself with nostalgic toys or one who shops a lot at those online auction sites. Figuring the Snacktime dolls would be pricy and hard to find, I looked them up on an auction site in an idle moment. Fate must have wanted Junila to have company because I found a Snacktime doll with red hair and blue eyes in an unopened box at a reasonable price. I couldn't help myself—I bought her.

When the doll came in the mail, a few people told me not to open the box. You can store it and resell in a couple years for a nice profit, they said. That made me wonder about the people who sell older toys, and curiously got the best of me as I looked up some of the toys my brother Patrick and I played when we were children.

Original Cabbage Patch Kids like Junila in their boxes sell for over \$100 each. I picture these dolls, doomed to never see light unfiltered by their plastic box fronts, being bought by collectors who store them in dark, unfriendly places.

Patrick wasn't much of a doll fan, but he did have a large collection of He-Man figures. An original He-Man figure on its card from 1981 usually sells for around



Joy to the world

column by Erin Joy

\$200. Other original figures on cards fetch nice prices too. Ten of the figures—He-Man, Teela, Skeletor, Evil-Lyn, Beast Man, Mer-Man, Trap Jaw, Faker, Tri-Klops and Man-at-Arms—were re-released in limited amounts last year. The complete set of reissues still in original packaging already sells for \$150 to \$250. The complete collection of 130 He-Man episodes sells for \$50 to \$100.

Patrick was also the proud owner of a He-Man big wheel, but I couldn't find any of those for sale. I did find an unopened Care Bears big wheel circa 1985 being sold for \$85.

Some Star Wars figures in packaging can fetch over \$300 each. If you were more of a Thundercats fan, those figures run \$50 to \$70 in unopened packages. Transformers (robots in disguise) range in price from 25 cents to hundreds of dollars, especially for the Japanese ones.

A rarer toy find is an unopened Strawberry Shortcake Doll in the box. These dolls can sell for \$250 to \$300 each. The Strawberry Shortcake house for the smaller play figures in its original box sells for over \$300.

Some toys have appreciated in value because of recent comebacks. A Mr. T doll in his original A-Team box goes for up to \$100, but I pity the fool who didn't break him out of the package for some A-Team fun when he had the chance.

The more common toys of our years—My Little Pony, Legos, Atari—haven't

see Treasure, page 7

Letter to the Editor...

Editor's note: This letter is from the organizer of the Bush protest to be held outside the College World Series June 8.

Dear Editor:

Agricultural cuts that hurt Nebraska farmers (and eventually the consumer), relaxed restrictions on arsenic (a poison) in drinking water that you and your children probably drink, plans to cut funding for the testing of school lunches for salmonella at the schools your children probably attend, plans to cut every federal penny of funding for Boys and Girls Clubs where many children find refuge, cuts to the Headstart Program and preschool for the poor that will further disadvantage the offspring of the working poor, reversal on a campaign promise to reduce carbon dioxide emissions that will further contribute to the alarming truth of global warming (by 2050, Wall Street, Manhattan and 75 percent of Florida could be under water), a tax plan that helps America's poor and underprivileged multimillionaires and billionaires more than it helps the common person, rejection of the Kyoto Treaty (instigating a hailstorm of criticism internationally and nationally), an attempt to eliminate the legal ability of citizens to sue the federal government to protect endangered species, an education proposal that included two different vouchers proposals that will de-fund public schools

that desperately need the money and didn't mention the word vouchers ...

It almost seems surreal or incredible. Regardless of whether one supports these actions of the Bush/Cheney Administration, it is indisputable that this is only a partial list of the attacks of the Bush/Cheney Administration on the environment, public education, minorities, the poor and the working class.

Given the political demographics of Nebraska and Omaha at large, we understand that what we are doing is extremely unpopular. Most progressive organizations in Nebraska have not been willing to endorse or collaborate with our event, understanding that we are causing extreme offense to many of Omaha's residents. But our goal, respectfully, is not to impress those who look upon the expression of our rights to political protest at the College World Series negatively, but rather to let the President know that his public relations strategy to paint a fictitious image is not welcome and to raise public awareness of the basis for contention in hopes that such awareness will lead to action—most importantly in the area of opposition to his federal judicial nominations since they present the greatest risk to us all.

I must be emphatic in stating that we

see Protest, page 7

Crusin' the News



Capel cottage revue

column by David Johnson

- Last Tango In Oslo

Oslo, Norway's Radio Tango is stripping its morning weather broadcasts down to the barest of essentials. In fact, its weather broadcaster is stripping down to nothing while reading the daily report. Siv Johannessen became the world's first nude radio weather presenter May 3 when she took it all off for the "more weather, less clothes" segment. Morning host Michael Reines Oredam says Radio Tango will bring in a new nude weather presenter every month. For a better glimpse, check out www.radiotango.no.

Talk about your warm fronts.

- Pure Genius

The 140 workers at the Guinness beer packaging plant in Dundalk, Ireland, have agreed on a payoff package now that the plant is closing. Guinness Ireland spokesman Pat Barry said each worker will receive a lump sum of between \$50,000 and \$175,000, depending upon length of service and age. Also written into the deal for the workers is a voluntary health insurance plan, death-in-service benefits, and two free bottles of beer each day for the next 10 years.

That would be 142 workers if you count the two new applicants — Jenna Bush and Regan Fahey.

- More From "Women Are From Venus, Men Are Basically Pigs"

Michael Gurian, author of "Boys and Girls Learn Differently," says there are many subtle differences between how boys and girls learn in the classroom. According to Gurian, boys are better at abstract reasoning, tend to work silently, and need movement to stimulate their brains and manage their impulsive behavior. Girls, on the other hand, prefer concrete reasoning, like to talk things out and don't need to move around as much. "Girls are better at managing boredom," Gurian said.

They'd have to sit all the way through a Bette Midler movie.

- The Official Government Explanation

Finland's Harri Holkeri, president of the 189-nation U.N. General Assembly, issued a report in April to clear up the problem some members were having about determining when a paper was a paper. Huh? Apparently, a paper is not a paper until it is formally issued as a formal document. Until it is formally

issued, a paper will be called a "non-paper." Holkeri's cover letter to the report contained the statement, "Please find enclosed my 'non-paper,' including an annex."

Which non-officially makes his cover letter and report a non-formal, non-document.

- Home Swoggled

David Horne, foreman at the Corus Llanwern steelworks plant in Newport, New South Wales, apparently ticked off two of his employees. So much so, they burst into his office, knocked him to the ground and fired off a stun gun to his testicles. Horne screamed in agony, lost control of his limbs, clenched his jaw so tightly he damaged his teeth, and cut his lip. The assailants, Dennis and Michael Pritchard, face serious jail time.

Some days it doesn't pay to be the boss.

- Isn't The Game Of Squash Where You Take A Small Bird And Tie It To A Big Rock?

A school principal in Tehran, Iran, was fired last month after setting fire to a live hamster on the school's playground. Apparently, the principal became irate when she found the hamster inside the school building and burned it alive in front of the students. An Iranian animal rights group filed a complaint with the Education Ministry.

You think that's gross? You should see how they play "Pop Goes The Weasel." First, you get a microwave ...

- Meals And Wheels

Dean Johnson bought a Ford Escort Cabriolet, complete with a Clifford 300 car alarm. The problem is the alarm goes off every time his mother uses her microwave oven. "I couldn't believe it," Johnson said. "We had been racking our brains for ages trying to work out the cause. The noise has been driving our neighbors nuts."

Yes, but isn't that defrost feature terrific?

- Foul Ball

A Lancaster, Ohio, high school administration suspended 14 baseball players for a week in April, and kicked them off the team for hiring strippers to perform in their hotel room during a road trip. The boys pooled their pizza money and hired the strippers from a hotel telephone book advertisement.

Kinda gives new meaning to the phrase, "looking for the curve."



the gateway

Editorial and letter policy

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the University of Nebraska at Omaha or the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

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Letters to the editor will be selected for publication on the basis of

timeliness, clarity and available space. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for publication.

Letters must be signed using the writer's first and last names. Letters must include the writers address and phone number for verification purposes only. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

Letters to the Editor...

In response to "Tuition increase impact sinks in"

Dear Editor:

The article "Tuition increase impact sinks in" (April 13) written by Melissa Kucirek disturbed me. It seems typical to find that the majority opinion from students over a tuition increase is negative. These students must not understand the whole concept of a university. This university is more than the faculty and their students. A university encompasses numerous costs that parking tickets cannot cover. As Will Marunda, student president/regent, stated, "This is something that has probably been delayed longer than it should."

Kucirek also included that Marunda had said that a majority of the funds would go to the faculty. This is an excellent opportunity for both the faculty as well as the university as a whole. By increasing professors' salaries, the university may

increase morale, prevent fine teachers from leaving and attract new, high-quality professors for our growing enrollment rate.

Some students believe that state funds from taxes should be sufficient to cover increasing costs. However, the state allocates its funds into several categories; the university only receives a small portion of these funds. This money is not intended to cover all of the expenses not already paid for by students' tuition.

Kucirek's article offers insight to the disputed question of tuition. Because UNO will see a 10 percent increase next year, students must understand the need. The increase will benefit each student, even though the incentives may not be tangible.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Jackson
UNO student

Dear Editor:

This is in response to the article "Tuition increase impact sinks in" (April 13). Although we have no say in whether they increase the tuition or not, it's interesting to hear what other students think. Being an education major, I understand the need to raise money in order to attract new teachers for years to come. If we want to be taught by qualified and efficient professors, they need to be paid more. They received their degrees and experience so they could make more

money than the average first grade teacher. The tuition at UNO is relatively inexpensive, considering all the free resources we have available to us. Even those things we have to pay for do not cost an excessive amount. Like all students, I would love to have a "free ride," but that's not practical. Students need to realize that the cost of an education will increase over time, as does everything else.

Sincerely,
Carly Fox
UNO student

In response to "The scale mistake"

Dear Editor:

I sympathize whole-heartedly with Aaron Winters in his column "The scale mistake." There will certainly be some students who end up on the minus side of a letter grade when they deservedly belong on the plus side. However, there is sometimes more than one solution to the problem. Faculty grade sympathizers can throw a lifeline to struggling students by making class participation worth more. A student who is

not doing well on tests can improve his or her grade to the plus side by contributing in a meaningful capacity during class. It is a win-win situation. Students have an opportunity to make up those points lost in the new grading scale, and faculty members could increase the discussion level in their classes, which we all know is a tremendous problem.

Sincerely,
Greg Monico
UNO student

Dear Editor:

The article titled "Grading scale passes" (April 17) seemed to have failed to address a common problem with the grading system here at UNO. All the attention is on passing the plus/minus grading system. The Faculty Senate as well as the Student Senate has possibly overlooked an important detail. This would be the diversity of the way professors consider grades for their courses.

Every semester students receive about three to five, on average, syllabi on the first day of classes. Here you will find about three

to five different ways professors assign grades according to the assigned work. Giving grades requires discretion, and everyone has their own definition of "A" work and so on. I don't believe the new grading scale will make much of a difference. It will not be some great new procedure like the Faculty Senate believes it will be, and it will not be some great horror like the Student Senate believes it will be. At least I hope not.

Sincerely,
David Kunz
UNO student

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the article "Grading scale passes" (April 17). Grades are very important in the goals of most college students. When the new grading scale was introduced, it was major news on this college campus. Grades can open or close doors in the career field and/or in the professional college arena. The concept of the new grading scale being a more precise assessment tool seems reasonable. The reason for this is that the smaller increments assigned to the letter grades, which now includes the minus sign, allows for a greater range of choice. It appears that the students may find themselves working harder to reach a higher grade

because a B+ is a 3.5, but next fall it will be a 3.33. It seems professors will need to make a corresponding adjustment in their expectations of what constitutes a B+ versus an A- in each course. The importance of GPAs needs to be considered. With this new system, professors will have a challenge in determining more specifically what constitutes each plus or minus. I am also concerned with the new scale making it more difficult for students to keep and earn scholarships and financial aid, since both may require a minimum GPA.

Sincerely,
Liz Barlow
UNO student

In response to "A culture of standardized students"

Dear Editor:

Ryan McGrane's editorial "A culture of standardized students" (April 13) discusses the elimination of standardized testing. Ryan believes that the education system needs to be reformed. We do need schools to develop skills that will be crucial to a student's future, such as troubleshooting, critical thinking, problem solving, social skills, teamwork and fundamentals. Teaching for the test has to stop. There is no doubt that this is constantly occurring in schools. Nearly every course I have taken, in high school and in college, was taught for the test.

High school was a breeze, and nearly everyone else thought so as well. It is a social haven and not an educational institution. I never had any homework to take home with me; I did it all in class. This was time that teachers should have used for developing skills. I never had to study; most teachers used the class before

a test for a review of what would be covered on the test. It was never necessary to go home and take time to study all of the lecture notes or read the text book. Without daily reviewing, it was only necessary to learn what was needed to pass the test, which only covered a fraction of the information. The best tests that teachers and professors can give are comprehensive tests. These tests build on previous knowledge and show the development of a student, demonstrating a student's ability to retain information and his or her ability to build skills.

Concerning the elimination of standards, I do not agree with McGrane. Education needs some standards for testing; without implementing any rules or guidelines there would be total chaos. There would be hundreds of tests, and students would be required to take several tests to get a general idea of skill levels.

see Test, page 7

Dear Editor:

In response to the column "A culture of standardized students" (April 13), I could not agree more with Ryan McGrane's take on this topic. Learning today has become less and less of students actually having to grasp a concept and apply it, but simply a regurgitation of what teachers feed their students back onto a test. This is not an effective method of learning, and furthermore, students are less likely to retain vital information if they do not fully understand it. The advancement of technology is no excuse for students to get out of learning all aspects of some subjects. The brightest students, no matter what their standardized test scores are, are those who have the ability to discuss, respond and add to what they are learning.

A change is long overdue regarding the way public schools are being taught, but this change should not be the changes the "critics" in this article suggest. Classrooms should be made interactive for more independent types of learning. It is true that there is a shortage of teachers in this country, but in a healthier learning environment, teachers may find themselves with well-behaved, intelligent students. No matter what the changes need to be, the current method of schooling for the purpose of students achieving high scores on standardized tests is proving to be a poor method.

Sincerely,
Lindsey Hlebert
UNO student

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0VC backpacking in the Great Smoky Mountains

A backpacker's journal

Josh Williamson

Day One

The first half of the day's hike was excellent. Not too hot or steep and crystal clear streams most of the way. Mike, Justin and I kept making Shawn run up to the front with us so we could point out a millipede or frog we ran across (Shawn loves critters). The second half of the trail was a killer. We ascended about 2,500 feet in a little over three miles.

Day Two

Rain caught us less than half a mile into the trail. We took a short break in a shelter along the trail to throw on some rain gear and have a snack. The rain followed us through the rest of the day, finally breaking when we reached our campsite. We dried our rain-soaked clothes by the campfire.

Day Three

The hike today was great. It was almost all downhill and the weather was very cooperative. We reached our campsite quickly and tried to find a good spot to set up, but there wasn't a single level spot around. Jabe showed us how to properly escape from a giant fireball. His gas stove had a little accident while he was cooking Great Smoky Mountain Hillbilly Gumbo.

Day Four

We came to our first big river crossing around lunchtime. After our packs were safely across and on dry land, we all took a dip in the chilly water to scrub a few layers of funk off our bodies. The rest of the hike went very pleasantly after the refreshing dip. To the best of my memory, tonight is the first night Joel hasn't been forced to talk nicely to his stove in order to make it work.

Day Five

A late night storm made the hike out of camp very squishy. Steam rising from the ground and off all the plants drove the humidity way up, but we managed to make excellent time. Tonight will be our last in the Smoky Mountains. We're going to wake up an hour early tomorrow, at 6, so we can reach the van and get out of the park before Memorial Day congestion chokes all the roads.



1

Day Six, The End

After a short climb, it was downhill the rest of the day. The descent was enough to allow a jogging pace over much of the trail. We encountered day-hikers and the types that don't like to get too far from air conditioning as we got nearer to the Cove, where more civilized tourists roam. The RVs (or land whales) brought a few jokes from our group. We found the van right where we left it and packed our gear in the trailer. After buying ice cream, we started the 20-hour drive home.



3



2

1. Back row (left to right): Jabe Beal, Joel Bauch, Josh Williamson, Dave Hedman, Front Row: Dave Daniels, Justin York, Mike Munson, Shawn Plichta.
2. We made fires each night to keep warm while we ate freeze-dried vittles. We each tried our hand at building a fire. When it was my turn, I took no shame in breaking out my Zippo.
3. It wasn't hard to find water, but Justin's bottles always seemed to be running on empty because he drank so much. He's checking for "floaties" (bugs, dirt, etc.) in some water we got from a spring.
4. Utilizing magnesium flakes and a few sparks, Jabe made a nice fire for us to dry out some water-soaked clothes after a day of non-stop rain.
5. If your feet aren't happy, you aren't happy. We took lots of breaks to check for blisters and hotspots (the beginning of a blister). Preventative care makes all the difference between having a nice week and feeling closer to hell with every step.



4



5

from Treasure, page 4

appreciated much in value. Even unopened Barbies from the 1980s don't sell for much unless they are Happy Holiday Barbies, Bob Mackies or other highly collectible issues. The first Barbie I ever bought was Crystal Barbie in 1983. I could buy her again today for only \$20.

I had Sindy (the British answer to Barbie) furniture instead of Barbie furniture for the most part, and the dining room set I still have boxed up somewhere sells for over \$200 now. Mine is not worth that much; one of the legs to the table has been glued and re-glued many times. If I had never opened the other furniture in the house, it could be sold today for over \$2,000.

Who knew our toy chests were gold mines back when they were just toys to us? How did these people selling them now have the foresight to store them for selling on a rainy day 10 to 15 years in the future?

I choose to believe that these unopened vintage toys were harbored by mean parents for the sole purpose of torturing their children. Their children were the ones who came to my house to marvel at the sight of toys out of boxes.

Which brings me back to my first toy purchase since my age was in the single digits. It didn't take long for me to break the Snacktime Cabbage Patch out of her mint-condition box. Her name is Dani

Gem, and her birthday is April 30. My 6-year-old niece Kelly and I spent the day happily playing with her (carefully keeping our hair away from the mouth, of course), and we even pulled Junila off the shelf for awhile.

The emotional investments such hours of childhood play made in all of us have paid off far more than the potential financial investments ever could have.

I'm not going to regret opening the Snacktime Cabbage Patch box, just as I don't regret opening all the boxes of the now-valuable toys Patrick and I took for granted. We did with them what every child should continue to do.

We played.

from Protest, page 4

are not doing it to disrespect the American institution of baseball or the institution of the Presidency. We are doing it for the indivisible and common future of all of our children that is already being impacted by the disturbing agenda of the illegitimate administration of George W. Bush. We would be protesting anywhere the current President might visit and feel that it is our duty to our children to do so.

It is not our intent to damage the reputation of Omaha when it comes to the College World Series. In fact, many people feel that opposition to this protest is fundamentally un-American and does more to damage the reputation of Omaha than the

protest does itself.

And for those who claim it might spoil their day of fun at the College World Series, respectfully, please ignore us. Why let us ruin your day of fun? If you hear something on television or radio you don't like, you can change the channel. Similarly, you are perfectly capable of tuning us out.

But how can anyone have the arrogance to believe it is their place to determine what time and place constitutes a proper forum for expression of grievances for another person? Is it not fundamentally un-American to do so?

I want to reiterate that no offense is intended, but

respectfully, feel that my son and all of our children's future is far more important than one day at the ballpark, risking causing offense by violating the virgin eyes and ears of attendees, or potentially tarnishing Omaha's image because if we do not do something to address these critical problems now, there will one day soon enough be no future in which our children can enjoy a day at the ballpark.

Respectfully,
Joshua Thompson
UNO student
Nebraska Voter Rights
March coordinator
www.votermarchne.org

from Test, page 4

Many will argue that all tests are discriminatory in some sense; however, tests like the ACT allow a student to take a test as many times as they want to improve upon their scores. Using myself as an example, I took the ACT four times and managed to get three different overall scores, and my best score did not happen on the last attempt. Everyone should take a standardized test at least twice to get a good average score. The first time allows a student to experience the test, which nearly always allows the second attempt to be an improvement, because the student enters knowing what type of questions to expect and how to manage the time allotted for each section.

McGrane also mentioned that funding for schools should be increased, and funding for other programs such as missile defense should be cut. What the government needs to do is start monitoring better how the money is distributed to the schools and how schools are spending the money allotted to them. There are many cases where schools are not spending the money properly. Several use their funds for building gymnasiums or football stadiums when they already have one that perfectly

Sincerely,
Tom Bellinger
UNO student

www.gateway.unomaha.edu

From: Student Organizations and Leadership Programs
Women's Resource Center
Network for DisAbled Students
International Student Services
American Multicultural Students
Student Government
Student Programming Organization

The torch is passed from Manthei to Unger

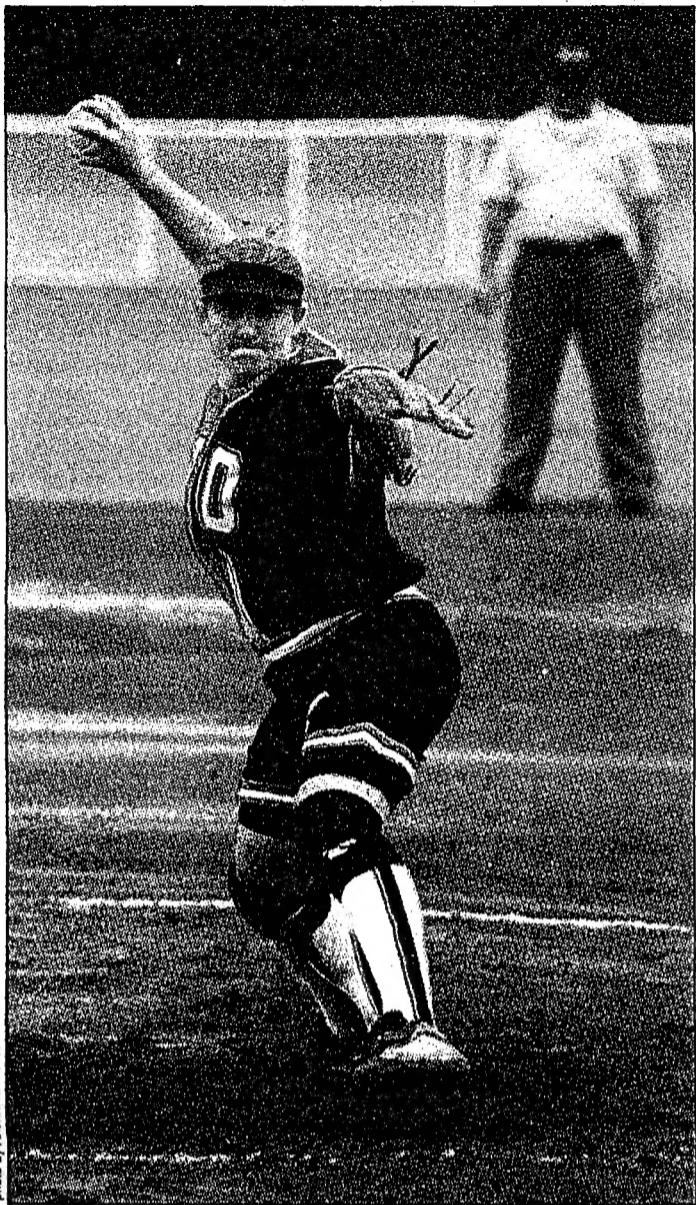


photo by Andies R. Alonso

David M. Johnson

Senior Michelle Manthei's three-hit, six-strikeout win over Humboldt State put UNO into the NCAA Division Championship finals against Lewis. That 5-1 victory was Manthei's 28th of the season and the last of her collegiate career.

Manthei was one of, if not the best, pitchers ever to take the mound for UNO softball. She finished with 526 career strikeouts and 88 career wins (both No. 1 on the all-time list). Her 34 career shutouts ranks her No. 2 behind Amy Boyd's 45.

She holds the season mark for strikeouts (219), is tied for second with Tracy Carey for wins in a season (28), is No. 3 on the charts with 215.2 innings pitched in one season and is tied for fourth with Deb Hensley with 12 shutouts in a season.

She now passes the "ace of the staff" torch to junior-to-be Krista Unger.

Unger is quickly making a name for herself on the Mav mound. Her complete-game, two-hit shutout of Lewis gave UNO the national title, and Head Coach Jeanne Tostenson is not afraid to give Unger the ball when the heat is on.

In just two seasons, Unger has posted 50 career wins, already fifth best in UNO history. Her 227 career strikeouts ties her for No. 6 on the all-time list, as does her 19 career shutouts.

Unger's numbers might have been even better had she not gone down with a blood clot in her pitching arm midway through the season. She will start next season as the "go-to" tosser, a season in which UNO will be defending the NCAA Division II National Championship.



photo by Josh Williamson

Congratulations to the UNO Women's Softball Team

for winning the
NCAA Division II
National Championship!

from the
Milo Bail Student Center

Above left: Krista Unger, seen here pitching at the National Championship game, will be the Mavs' #1 pitcher next season.
Above right: Michelle Manthei dominated the mound during her senior season.

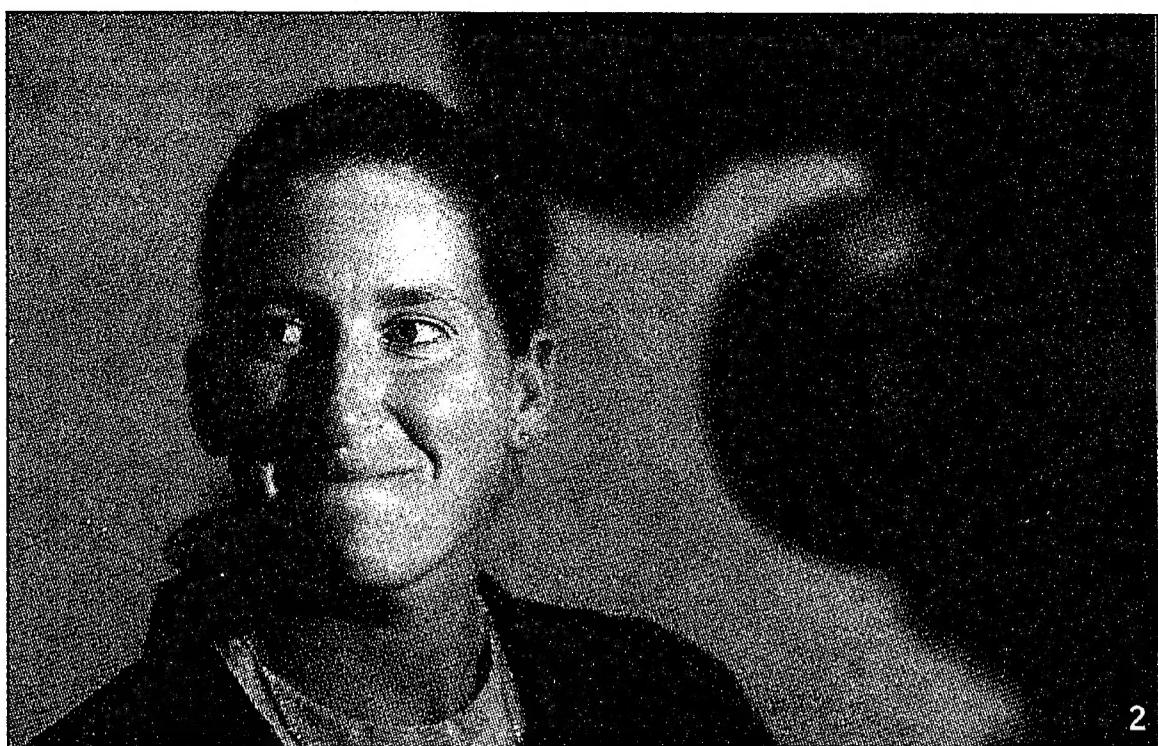


photo by Josh Williamson

Jenne Averill drives a ball at a recent game. Averill was tied for second on the team with four home runs.



photo by Chris Machian



2

photo by Chris Machian



photo by Chris Machian



photo by Josh Williamson

1. Tiffany Jones shows the welcoming crowd the National Championship trophy at the airport.
2. Head Coach Jeanie Tostensen takes a second to reflect on the National Championship win during a TV Interview at Eppley Airfield. Tostensen won the National Championship in only her second year as head coach for the Mavs.
3. UNK transfer Kelly Moats was a big help on offense for the Mavs this year
4. Kelly Moats bunts a ball to score a base run.

from Champs, page 1

Following a 6-2 loss at the hands of Humboldt State on Thursday of the five-day tournament, UNO rallied to defeat Eastern New Mexico 3-0, Lewis 3-0 and avenged the earlier setback with a 5-1 win over Humboldt to reach Monday afternoon's final.

"That one loss didn't faze us. We had the heart and the belief and we knew we could get it done," Manthei said.

UNO jumped all over Lewis from the opening pitch getting all four runs in the bottom of the first inning. The Mavericks got two RBIs from Scheppers and Moats drove in another and UNO never looked back. Duckworth had three hits and scored a run while senior center-fielder Jenny Redlinger scored another run on two hits.

"We have great bats and a great defense and it was great to have everything working together," Unger said.

Unger (23-3) was virtually unhittable pitching a complete game two-hitter for the win with five strikeouts. Kristou (25-8) took the loss for Lewis.

Unger completed her sophomore campaign with a 0.76 ERA and 22 complete games.

Sophomore designated-hitter Jennifer Carson finished the year as UNO's best bat with a .434 average in 60 starts. Carson also led the team in doubles (16), hits (79) and total bases (101).

The Mavs were never shut out, managing to score at least one run in every ball game this year.

As if weekend's accomplishments were not enough, Coach Tostenson has her eye on a possible national championship run in 2002.

"Can we do it again? I think the kids will drive for it, that's for sure. It will be our goal again and it will be our mission," Tostenson said.

**Congratulations
National Champions!**

**"Luck? Sure. But only
after long practice and only
with the ability to think under
pressure."**

Babe Didrikson Zaharias

**Congratulations to the players and coaches of the UNO Women's
Softball Team, the NCAA Division II National Champions!**

We're proud of your win — and prouder still of your teamwork,
determination and tenacity. You represented us well.

Go Mavs!

Nancy Belck

Nancy Belck, Chancellor

The disc golf alternative

Brian Brashaw

Upon pulling into the park, it began to rain. That figures, beautiful day like it had been, and just as I wander outside to enjoy it, the sky turns gray. Well, trudge on I assume, off to the disc golf course.

Disc golf you say? Sounds interesting enough. The object is to toss your disc the least amount of times to get it in the hole, which is actually a pole with chains hanging down from it to deaden the disc into the metal basket underneath.

Simple. I admit, I was lost when I stepped up to the 12th hole, which was actually just the first hole I encountered. I had no clue what to do, where to go, and I saw no pole with hanging chains. Worse, I had no disc. I needed playing partners.

Walking up the hill towards the beginning of the course were three middle-aged guys tossing away. Good subjects? I passed.

I struck gold with the next group I encountered. Four UNO sophomores, including a pre-med, first-timer at disc golf. The others, also sophomores, had a little more experience in the ways of wind manipulation.

There was the old pro Joe Watson, who became the man with the answers to the boringly obvious questions. Why disc golf, not real golf?

"It's free," Watson said.

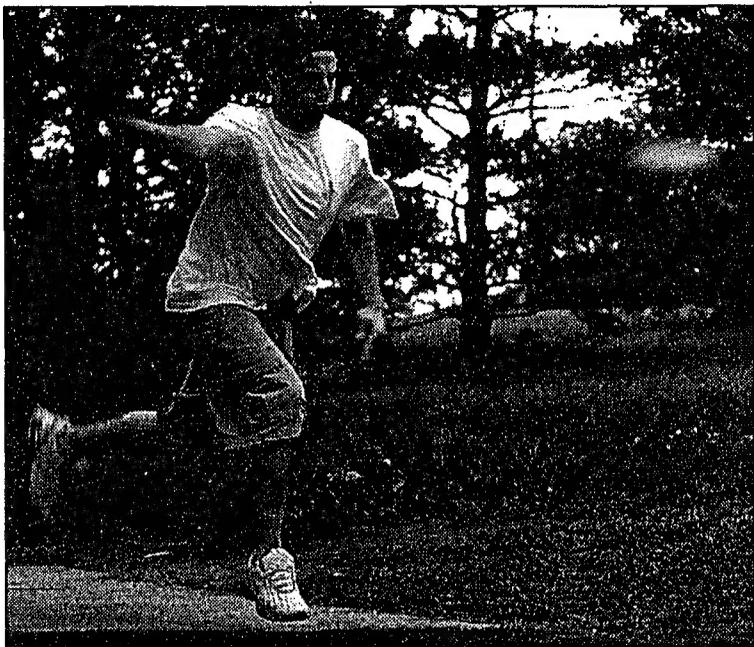
The man had a point. Besides the specialized disc that runs \$8-\$20, the game is completely free. You show up at the park with your disc and tee off.

So why start playing disc golf? The newbie, Karissa Feuerstein, chimed in.

"I started playing because they called me at 11:30 this morning and they asked me to come," Feuerstein said.

"We probably come out here about twice a week. Been playing pretty much since school got out," Watson said. "It's free, it's fun."

Then came the table at the turn. At the beginning of the 10th hole is a picnic table nestled under an evergreen



Sophomore psychology student Matt Heck makes the most of nice weather with a few rounds of disc golf at Seymour Smith park.

tree. The inscriptions on the table noted that this was a popular resting spot for the participants. There's no clubhouse to buy hot dogs, no stand to snag a Gatorade, just a table and a tree, but if they could only talk.

So the back nine begun. Matt Heck, the other guy in the foursome, launched a beauty of a disc about 200 feet downhill over a tree, and with a thud and a roll, Heck was off to a birdie on the hole. The disc clanked the chains just as I was commenting on the previous group of grumpier old men I passed up.

"Don't knock the older people," Feuerstein said. "There was a 100-year-old lady graduate with a teaching degree last semester."

Then the winds and rain started picking up again. None of the four seemed to mind.

The second girl, Brandy Rettele, finished up the hole with a two-foot toss that hit the chains and dropped to the ground, not into the basket. "I so made that; that so went in!" she said.

Watson objected. It didn't matter — they weren't keeping score.

A few more holes went by, and I was getting wet from the rain. I decided maybe my first disc golf experience should end before I melted. Besides, this mild stroll-in-the-park game has its hidden dangers.

Watson was bitten by a snake when picking up his disc, Heck was hit twice by errant throws from the rocket arm of Feuerstein and Rettele had blood on her shorts from a spider that was maliciously slaughtered by Watson. And yet no warning labels anywhere in the park.

Some game, some hour. Sound like fun? Head to Seymour Smith park any day and play a round. One hour, 18 holes, free.

The first stop, however, would be at the "clubhouse," better known as the Kwik Shop across the street. There you will find a variety of discs from straight to right hook, left hook and drifter discs. Also, make sure you check the Weather Channel first — the park takes a while to walk out of in pouring rain — not that I would be unfortunate enough to know.

Joslyn presents the American Painter-Etcher movement

Linda Sedjro

The Joslyn Art Museum will feature a collection of works from the Painter-Etcher Movement beginning June 9.

Brandon Rude, assistant curator at Joslyn Art Museum, came up with the idea of exploring the museum's permanent collection of the Painter-Etcher Movement.

"I want the public to have a better understanding of the etching movement which is novel, an original medium that is parallel to the painting" Rude said.

The movement was created by painters and etchers who criticized the engraving techniques and started a new creative composition. The movement, also called the Etching Revival, re-established a new appreciation for etching.

The Painter-Etcher Movement shows the origins and history of the late 19th-century's artistic rebirth of etching.

"Those artists were reviving a technique that was abandoned," Rude said.

The etching-painting originated in the late 16th century because the techniques of engraving were solely a reproductive medium. The movement created mood through atmospheric images competing with brilliant landscapes.

"The movement's goal was to elevate the medium of etching to the same level of painting," Rude said.

Approximately 35 works are being featured in the show. Artists include Thomas and Mary Nimmo Moran, Whistler, Charles-Emile Jacque, Francis Seymour Haden, Jean-Francois Millet and Johann Barthold Jongkind.

The Joslyn American Painter-Etcher Movement exhibit runs through September 30. Entry to the show is \$6 for adults, \$4 for seniors and college students and \$3.50 for children.

Merlyn's mystique: The man behind the magic

Bobbi McCollum

"When I stand, I'm standing as if I'm better than everyone else," Bob Schmill, a.k.a. Merlyn, says.

Once upon a time, Schmill was no more than a "normal tuxedo magician," but, with the help of a few connections, he has risen to the rank of The Renaissance Faire of the Midland's Merlyn. Now entering his 14th year as the character, he has had much success and participates in four other festivals per year.

Standing at 6 feet, 3 inches and sporting a white goatee, Schmill naturally looks the part of his character. And because the real Merlyn would never shop at Gap, Schmill designs and creates his own costumes. His long dark robe dawns an intricate white dragon with a ruby-red eye. The tall wooden staff is decorated with deer horns, fur and dragon figurines.

Schmill's costume has to really look like it's from the Renaissance period, not so much for the Faire's sake but because he knows "they" will be there.

Who are "they?"

"There's people who go to faires and they're called Ren-ees. They're like the Trekkies of renaissance faires," Schmill explains. "You know, the people who show up at Village Inn dressed as their favorite role-playing characters."

Schmill explains that some of them actually believe they are their characters. He is quick to say that Merlyn is just a hobby, a character he plays on the side.

However, these Ren-ees know everything about the time period because they've studied it in depth. And it is because of these people that Schmill has to know his character forwards and backwards, plus have a good feel for the Renaissance period. They will ask "test" questions and expect valid answers.

This year's Renaissance Faire of the Midland's theme is "Magic and Myrth." Thus, Merlyn's character is being highlighted with extra performances. The faire will also feature artisans, jousting, archery and a mouthwatering assortment of grub.

Admission to the 18th Annual Renaissance Faire of the Midlands is \$12 for adults and \$3 for children. Faire hours are Friday 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Iowa Western Community College.

Once upon a time ... UNO history

David M. Johnson

Spring 1939.

It was time for the second annual Omaha University Tomahawk Beauty Queen competition. Florence Kennedy won the inaugural contest the previous year, but this year Alice Jane Vickery was the odds-on favorite. After all, she was the school's reigning Homecoming Queen.

Beauty contests were commonplace in the early days of the university. Gala Day Queens had been named since 1911. The Ma-le Day Princess had been chosen since 1935. Homecoming royalty first took the stage in 1931.

Alice Jane Vickery, now a senior, was a member of the Sigma Chi

Omicron sorority and was being sponsored by the Theta Phi Delta fraternity. But the contest was close.

"I never realized before what a tough job this Beauty Contest judging could be," wrote the judge. "I may say I am a novice at it — and particularly unqualified to pick three out of 12, when they're all so attractive."

Twelve young women, Vickery included, had entered the Tomahawk Beauty Queen contest. Each was given a number for anonymity's sake.

"First I was sure number 10 was the winner, then I got a good look at number seven's smile, and from then on I just couldn't seem to make up my mind," continued the judge. "I'd get to looking at number 11's eyes and thinking this is the one until I'd see nine's hair — and I'd be off again. I

wanted to call the whole thing a draw — but I understand you can't run a beauty contest that way."

But every contest of this nature does have to have a winner, so the judge had to make a choice.

"I finally clocked them — 10, six and seven, to win, place and show—and the field wasn't trailing far behind."

Alice Jane Vickery was number 10 and was named the 1939 Omaha University Tomahawk Beauty Queen.

Freshman Doris Jean Nelson of Phi Delta Psi was number six, and freshman Barbara Hatfield from Pi Omega Pi was number seven.

Oh yeah, the judge who had to make the difficult decision ... 34-year old actor Henry Fonda.

Red Faction gives Playstation gamers what they want

TMS Campus

Half-Life. Quake. Unreal. Repeat.

And there you have it, ladies and gentlemen: today's nation of first-person shooters. It doesn't matter that these three titles have been done to death. These PC retreads are the games people clamor for, because, with the exception of occasional gems like Perfect Dark and, well, Perfect Dark, there isn't much else going on.

Hopefully, if THQ's and Volition's Red Faction (out now for Playstation 2) is an omen, that trend will change. It's been a while, but PS2 fans finally have a respectable shooter they can call their own, and Red Faction's solid engine, combined with its phenomenal Geo-Mod technology, may even make PC diehards a bit envious.

There's nothing unusual about Red Faction's solid brand of shooter: All the standard controls are here, and the game is loaded with the usual assortment of big guns, many of which have more than one function, a la Perfect Dark. The game's vehicles, including an ATV and a submarine, add nice touches without boring gamers who'd rather be on foot.

Levels evolve in a manner similar to Half-Life, in that progress depends more on what you do rather than when you reach a specific area. There are no portioned, detailed missions, per se, but this isn't a random free-for-all, either. The storyline, which pits you on Mars as a miner rebelling, alongside your coworkers, against the shady corporation that employs (or rather, enslaves) you, is immediately engaging and paces well. Likewise, interaction with your fellow miners is intuitive but never burdens the action.

Enemy intelligence is not always the stuff of Mensa, but the actions of your adversaries—they run, duck, cover each other, call for backup and even lie about being unarmed before ambushing you later—makes your actions matter and helps the game stay fresh throughout.

Good stuff all around, and a very solid game for sure.

see Playstation, page 14

Think back to ABBA for totally polished, perfect pop

Greg Kot
Chicago Tribune

Some guilty pleasures survive simply as convenient punching bags. Menudo? Milli Vanilli? The William Shatner solo album?

But when the jokes are at the expense of ABBA, they're inevitably told with affection, because only a curmudgeon could resist those songs. Even without a major theatrical production to draw attention to their work, the quartet would still cast a benevolent shadow over today's pop music from the dawn of the Euro-disco age.

The sound of these mid-'70s pop auteurs—four Barbie and Ken dolls who became Swedish pop kings and queens—is the basis for the multimillion-selling careers of Britney Spears, the Backstreet Boys and "N Sync, all of whom have benefited from the ABBA-inspired songwriting of Swedish producer Max Martin and his Stockholm-based Cheiron Productions team.

Though marketed with all the subtlety of wind-up toys, the latest wave of teen sensations benefits from some undeniably well-crafted tunes. And just as there was something almost creepy about the way Agnetha, Benny, Bjorn and Anni-Frid presented themselves that impossibly perfect hair, those ice-queen gowns and disco-dude sequined bellbottoms gave wholesomeness a bad name—there was also something brilliant about the songs themselves. The melodies brimmed with craftsmanlike touches: the percussive harmonies of "Take a Chance on Me," the French horn that wafts through "The Name of the Game," the Spector-like "Da Doo-Run Run" roar of

see Pop music, page 14

Simon Says Bolton!

Paul Elde

Zach Diebels, lead guitarist of Simon Says, claims the reason for its success is a heavy focus on the audience.

"When the kids come to our show, we don't want them to think that since we are up on the stage that we are unapproachable. Crowd interaction and just getting to know the fans is what we are all about," Diebels said.

Simon Says is a four-member band based in Sacramento, Calif. The band has achieved national prominence thanks to touring with acts such as Limp Bizkit and Staind. They have also performed on the Warped tour and at the X-Games, shown on ESPN.

The band will kick off its summer tour in Omaha at the Ranch Bowl on June 8th. Also performing on the undercard will be two other bands on the come up, Unloco and Darwin's Waiting Room.

The tour is slated to begin in Omaha because Diebels said, "Omaha is a great town and every time we've played there we've had great crowds. The people are great and we really like the place."

The tour is in support of the band's latest CD release, "Shut Your Breath." It

is the band's second album release on Hollywood Records.

Simon Says usually tours about 300 days a year.

"It's a lot of fun, but there are times when it sucks. You are always on the go and constantly eating a lot of crappy food," Diebels said.

When asked to describe the band's musical style, he had this to say: "We are a combination of Deftones and Staind, with a heavy dose of Tool for good measure."

The members of Simon Says have known one another since they were 16, when they first started jamming together.

"That's what's great about this band," Diebels said. "We are all great friends and we get to do what we love for a living. We hope that comes across in our music."

When the topic of boy bands and the shameful corporate pimping of the music industry came up, Diebels responded with an uninhibited flurry of positive feedback.

"I think right now rock music is on the way up. Boy bands aren't artists, but they are entertainers, and we shouldn't hate them for that no matter how bad

they obviously suck. Turn on the radio now and you've got bands like Tool, Deftones and Disturbed and they are all very successful. Rock music is definitely on the come up."

All music aside, a question for the ages was unfurled in Diebels' direction: Who would win a street fight between Phil Donahue and Geraldo Rivera?

Diebels initially leaned toward Donahue, but then it was revealed that Donahue could NOT use his trademark glasses as a weapon.

Diebels' response: "A draw. They're both bad muthas."

Another question was posed to Diebels: Do you know anyone who owns a Michael Bolton CD? How do you explain his fame and/or ponytail?

Diebels' father is guilty of possessing a Michael Bolton CD. Shameful indeed. I wonder what Chino Moreno would say? As for explaining his fame, Diebels' had this reply—"Single, middle-aged women." The ponytail, however, remained inexplicable.

Simon Says will perform at the Ranch Bowl on Friday. Tickets can be purchased at the Ranch Bowl or by calling 393-0900.

Three worst CDs of all time

Mike Machian and Mike Torsion

As employees of the Gateway and UNO's student radio station Maverick Radio, we have had the pleasure of hearing some great bands before most everyone else. We take great pride in having played some of today's most popular bands such as Kittie, The Living End and Lit before mainstream radio began playing them.

Among these memorable bands we've also received some CDs that are memorable for a different reason. These CDs are so bad that they give new definition to the word "suck."

Rest assured that all of the albums being reviewed here fit that lofty definition. To gain this dubious honor the work in question must have met three criteria:

1. They have to have made us laugh within 30 seconds into the first listen.
2. They must suck in a unique and spectacular way.
3. They must have been intended to be taken as serious work.

Now we present to you the cream of the crop, the worst of the worst. Read on if you dare ...

Double Ought Boys
"Double Ought Boys"

This CD was the original inspiration for this article. The first song hit us like a monster truck with Yosemite Sam mud flaps and a gun rack. This album tries to meld country and rap. We admit that we don't know much about either genre, but we do know that they fall on different ends of the musical spectrum and probably should stay there.

From the country perspective, vocalist "Doc" sounds like he has a head cold and the music guitar/banjo/fiddle sound like

leftover background music from "Deliverance."

From a rap perspective, this is the equivalent to the Antichrist. Not many rap albums have the confederate flag on the back cover, nor are we likely to see an article in Vibe magazine concerning the joys of taking your Chevy pick-up offroading in muddy ditches, as is the theme of "Muddin' Song," the first track.

The beats sound like they went out and got the cheapest drum machine they could find and then couldn't figure out how to get the demo button to shut off. The music is overly simple and the lyrics are at about a fifth grade level. Really, what the hell were they thinking?

Symphony X
"V: The New Mythology Suite"

Maverick Radio receives countless death metal CDs during the course of the year. While some are good, most get thrown in a pile, never to be heard again. Symphony X resided in such a pile for months before one day we decided to give it a second chance based solely on the fact that we liked the cover.

The music that emanated from the speakers frightened us, but not in the way that most death metal bands would like to frighten you. Symphony X is like a cross between Queen, Slayer and the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

Unfortunately, they don't possess the talent of any of the aforementioned bands.

With songs such as "Transcendence," "The Bird-Serpent War" and "The Death of Balance" (entirely in Latin) this group tries to conjure up vivid and confusing images of the occult and mythology. Symphony X's CD is layered with whimsical synthesizers, operatic voices and chunky metal riffs that create a unique blend of opera and

heavy metal that we have never heard before nor should we hear again.

Frederico
"Frederico Shivers"

Frederico D. Shivers is the last and certainly the least of the three we're reviewing today. This album caught our attention because on the cover of the CD and many promotional items we received from Frederico was a picture of a man that looked like a bizarre parody of Prince from the early '80s.

It was so poorly done and ridiculous that we thought it was done as a joke. The truth became apparent when we checked into it a little more.

The album tries to be some kind of cross between rap and pop but fails miserably at both ends. Musically both songs on the CD ("Abracadabra Frederico" and "The Best News") are very simple and sound like they were put together with a very cheap keyboard. His vocals are so garbled that it was hard for us to understand more than three words in "The Best News." The second song, "Abracadabra Frederico," displays Frederico's bizarre fascination with his own name as he repeats his name in ever more annoying ways.

With all the promotional materials and constant phone calls we received on this CD, it appears to us that more time and money were spent promoting the CD than making it.

Some of the CDs we receive at Maverick Radio change the face of music. Most end up in the mediocre pile never to be heard from again.

However, there are a special few that are so bad they must be kept aside as warning to future generations. Why did we feel the need to share these spectacular failures with you? Well, if we had to listen to hear these, you have to hear about this.

Hardballers finish strong, miss postseason

Cory A. Carlson

The Maverick baseball team (21-25-1) finished its season May 7 with a double-header sweep at Augustana to even its record in North Central Conference play at 9-9, but missed the playoffs for the first time since 1992. Both games were played at Ronken Field in Sioux Falls.

UNO's top two pitchers, sophomore Aaron Woodard and senior Kyle Funk, held Viking hitters to just 10 hits in two games. Unfortunately, the efforts were not enough for the Mavericks, who were left on the outside looking in to the four-team NCC post season tournament. UNO finished sixth in the final conference standings just ahead of Morningside and two games short of the fourth and final playoff spot.

In the first game, Woodard pitched a complete game five-hitter. He struck out seven batters allowing just two earned runs and one walk for the 3-2 victory. UNO got two RBIs from junior left-fielder Eric Rysdam. Omaha Westside-product freshman Jake Wurth scored a run on two hits. Sophomores Patrick Johnston and Justin Cook also crossed home plate to give UNO the edge.

Wurth broke a 25-year-old record for stolen bases in a season with his 26th swipe against Augustana. Wurth broke Steve Nabity's mark of 25 thievery in 1976. Wurth was 26-28 on the base paths this year.

The Mavericks rallied for three runs in the final two innings to defeat the Vikings.

In the nightcap, Funk threw a five-hitter of his own, but he also recorded the shutout in a 2-0 win. Funk had just one walk and struck out seven.

UNO got all the offense it needed in the top of the second inning when sophomores David Kros and Aaron Bearinger each had RBIs. Wurth scored his second run of the series, and junior Dan Persons also crossed home plate for the difference in the game.

Funk was the only Maverick to earn all-NCC honors from the coaches. Funk (6-2) compiled a 3.41 earned run average and a 4-1 record in conference play.

Cook led UNO at the plate with a .370 average. Cook also led the team in doubles with eight and home runs with three. Sophomore third baseman Spencer Doyle racked up the most runs batted in with 25. Rysdam was right behind him with 22 on 2001.

Woodard and Funk were mainstays on the mound each recording winning records. Woodard (4-3) led the team in strikeouts with 61 in 62 innings.

Head Coach Bob Herold is 46-50-2 after two seasons at the helm and loses just five seniors for the 2002 campaign.

A collision at first base causes UNO player #38 Justin Cook to lose control of the ball

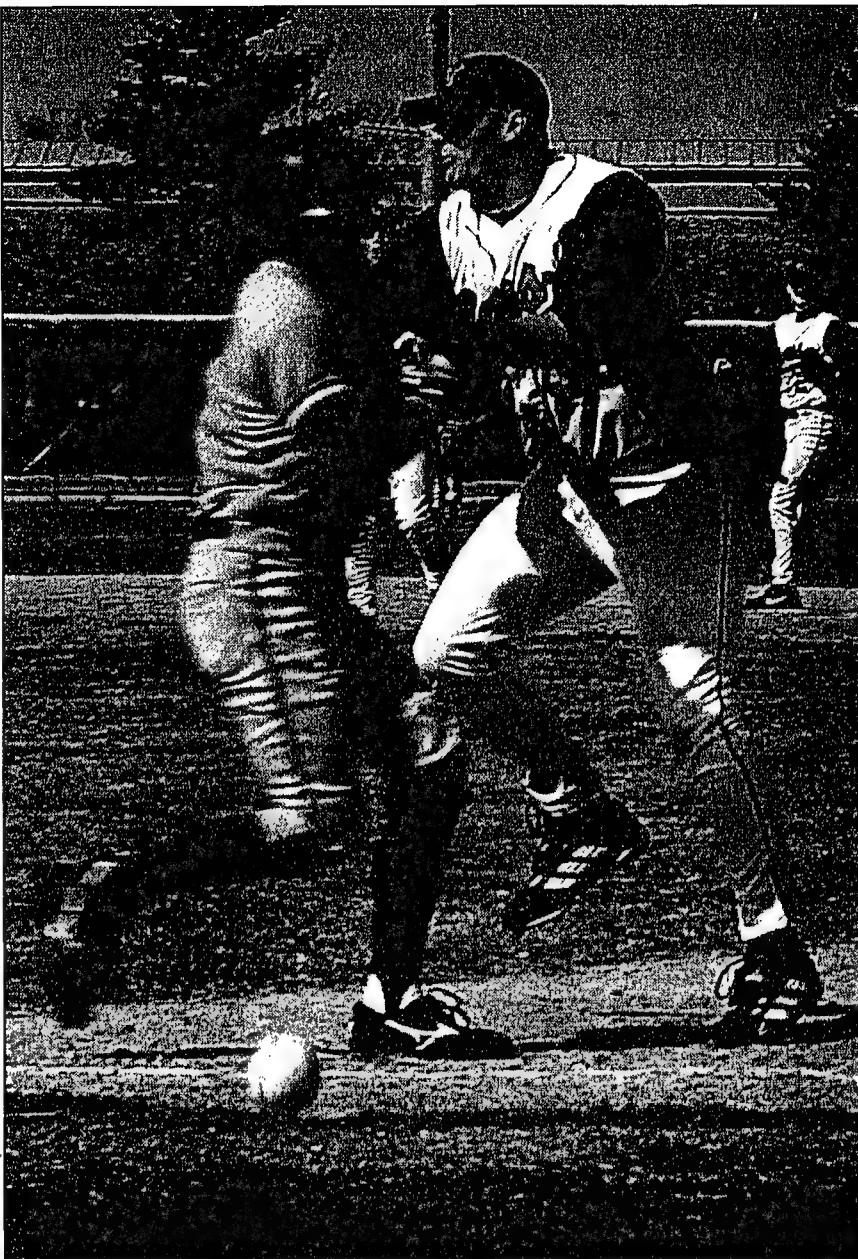


photo by Josh Williamson

Maverick sports to make new air waves

Brian Brashaw

UNO has just signed a contract new contract for the sports programs to stay on the air. The difference is listeners will have to move the dial slightly from their home last year.

While Maverick football and hockey could be heard on KFAB 1110-AM last season, the new home for Maverick radio lies in Waitt Media Inc. The Mavericks will now be found on KKAR 1290-AM, and on ESPN 1620-AM.

"It's our intent to enter into an agreement with Waitt Media to broadcast men's and women's basketball, football and hockey games next season," UNO athletic director Bob Danenhauer said.

The new deal with Waitt Media actually keeps Maverick men's and women's basketball on ESPN 1620, as last year, for two more seasons. The changes lie with the football and hockey broadcasts. Football will now be carried on 1620 ESPN radio for the next two seasons, and hockey will move from KFAB 1110 to KKAR 1290 for the next three seasons.

Kevin Kugler will continue to be the voice of Maverick football

and will be entering his fourth season doing play-by-play announcing for Maverick football, and Joe Patrick will remain as the color commentator. The announcement has not been made as to who will now be doing play-by-play and color for the Maverick hockey team, which had been broadcast by KFAB and announced by Greg Harrington and Terry Leahy since the program was started four years ago.

All in all there will be over 100 live broadcasts of various sports over the upcoming fall and winter seasons by ESPN radio and be KKAR.

Norm Waitt, Chairman of the Board for Waitt Media said, "We are proud to have one of the premier Division II athletic programs broadcast on 1290 KKAR and KAZP, ESPN 1620. Omaha is our company's home base and we are excited to deliver hometown spots to listeners both by bringing live play-by-play and with daily discussions of all aspects of the local sports scene."

Waitt Media is housed with sister stations Sweet 98, 106.9 The City, Radio Disney 1180 and 101.9 The Fox.

Five members of Clemson football staff disciplined for violations

Knight-Ridder Tribune

Five members of Clemson's football staff received penalties ranging from mandatory attendance of a rules seminar to frozen salaries, and a booster has been disassociated from the athletics program for one year in response to secondary NCAA violations, the school announced Wednesday.

Clemson Chief Public Affairs Officer Cathy Sams said the penalties involving the booster stem from violations committed while recruiting two football players from Gaffney High School. The assistant coach also was required to attend a rules seminar at his own expense and will not be eligible for a salary increase or a bowl bonus until Sept. 1, 2002.

That coach also will not be allowed to recruit off campus until Feb. 6, 2002, and has received a letter of reprimand.

In addition, Clemson reduced its number of official, on-campus visits by potential recruits for 2001-02 from the maximum of 56 to 42, and will be allowed 83 scholarships rather than the NCAA maximum of 85 for the 2002-03 school year.

The number of coaches permitted to recruit off campus between now and Feb. 6 has been reduced from seven to six, and the evaluation period from April 25 to May 31 of this year was shortened from four weeks to two weeks.

"I think they are appropriate," Clemson Athletics Director Bobby Robinson said of the sanctions. "It's a judgment call, and I made the judgment."

The sanctions are the result of a joint investigation conducted by the NCAA and Clemson's NCAA compliance staff. In October, NCAA investigators interviewed Gaffney High School players Jeff Littlejohn

and Roger McIntosh, reportedly regarding their association with Clemson booster Lamar Greene.

Efforts to reach Greene at his residence in Gaffney on Wednesday night were unsuccessful.

Ultimately, Clemson self-reported three secondary violations in the case, according to documents released Wednesday by the university:

Improper contact by the assistant coach and the booster when they had lunch with the prospects at a restaurant during a recruiting "quiet period."

A \$1,300 loan provided by the booster to pay for a limousine the players used to attend their prom.

Use of the booster's boat by the recruits.

Clemson ceased recruiting the players in January because of concerns that NCAA rules had been violated. Both players had given commitments to Clemson, but signed with the University of Miami in February.

"We intend to win and win with integrity," Clemson coach Tommy Bowden said in a statement. "I will tolerate nothing less. The integrity of this university, our team and my good name are of paramount importance. They will not be compromised."

Citing statutes in the state's Freedom of Information laws that allow personnel information to be kept confidential, school officials redacted from documents the names of the staff members who had been punished or were involved in violations.

A second member of the football staff had his salary frozen and received a letter of reprimand for providing an impermissible snack during the Jan 12-14 recruiting weekend in January.

On that same weekend, another secondary violation occurred when fans were permitted to interact with a

see Violations, page 13

Tennis takes bronze at NCC Championships

David M. Johnson

In its first year of existence, the UNO tennis team took the bronze medal at the North Central Conference Tennis Championships held April 28 in Grand Forks, N.D.

Northern Colorado won the seven-team tournament with 55 points. North Dakota took silver with 48 points, while the Mavs came in third with 29 points.

UNO No. 1 Bridgette Komasinck lost for the only time this season, dropping the championship match 6-1, 6-2 to Northern Colorado's Jan Ikeda.

Mavs Jennifer Schmidt (No. 2 singles) and Mikaila Spaulding (No. 5 singles) took home bronzes in their competitions. Shannon Dinovo (No. 4 singles) placed fourth and Lindsay Loveland (No. 6 singles) took fifth place.

In doubles play, it was Komasinck and Spaulding teaming up for a third-place win over the duo from Minnesota State-Mankato. Senior Maggie Wear joined up with Schmidt to also take third place in their doubles event, while Dinovo and Loveland placed fourth.

For the season, the Mavericks finished 8-4 under first-year Head Coach Bill Nichols.

Mikaila Spaulding returns a ball at a practice earlier this year.



Tracksters qualify 10 for NCAA Championships

Cory A. Carlson

UNO had 10 athletes qualify for six different events for the NCAA Division II Championships at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville from May 24-25.

Senior Carly Lambert failed in her attempt to become a four-time All-American in the 100 meters when she was unable to advance past the first round of heats with a time of 12.20. Sophomore Lindsey Hunter finished 13th in the Heptathlon scoring 4,500 points.

Senior Suzanne Larsen finished her career at UNO on a high note finishing seventh overall in the high jump. Larsen cleared the bar at 1.62 meters or 5'03.75". Teammate sophomore Yasmine Malone matched Larsen's leap but did not score any points for her efforts. Larsen was responsible for UNO's only points in the meet finishing 56th out of 57 teams. St. Augustine's College won the women's title scoring 80 points to defeat Western State of Colorado. Western State finished with 59 points.

The indoor and outdoor track teams lose just six seniors for the 2001-2002 season. 2001 North Central Conference Indoor Coach of the Year will have anything but an empty cupboard to pull from when next season begins.

from Violations, page 12

recruit outside the football stadium. The reduction in official visits was a response to the contact outside the stadium.

All told, three members of the football staff received letters of reprimand for their actions that weekend.

An additional assistant coach was required to attend an NCAA rules-compliance seminar in a letter in which Robinson said the coach used the dock and the Hilton Head residence of the booster.

In a May 29 letter to President James Barker, NCAA Director of Enforcement Mark Jones indicated that the infractions are being processed as secondary violations. NCAA Committee on Infractions member Dick Dunn will review that decision.

The NCAA will rule on the matter, but in most cases, the recommendation of secondary violations is accepted.

Peanut Gallery

- Props to track stars, senior Suzanne Larson and sophomore Michelle Ellingson, who were named to the 2000-2001 North Central Conference Women's All-Academic At-Large Team. Both Larson and Ellingson carry a 4.0 GPA in biology. Honorable mention awards went to swimmers Malia Bruening, Kim Ferris, Jamie Haferbier, Kristy Malone, Steph Patterson and cross country runner Becky Golz.

- Props to senior wrestlers Scott Antoniak and Allan Cartwright who were named to the

2000-2001 NCC Men's All-Academic At-Large Team. Antoniak has a 3.442 GPA in Criminal Justice, while Cartwright brings a 3.743 GPA in Exercise Science. Honorable mention went to fellow wrestler Mack LaRock.

- Props to UNO Head Coach Jeanne Tostenson who was named NCC Coach of the Year in softball.

- Five Maverick players were named to the 2001 All-NCC Softball Team: first baseman Tiffany Jones, left fielder Kelly Moats, center fielder Jenny Redlinger, designated hitter Jennifer Carson and pitcher Michelle Manthei.

- Props to softball stars Jennifer Carson and Michelle Manthei who were named to the 2001 Academic All-NCC Softball Team. Carson, a junior, carries a 3.738 GPA in Secondary Education. Manthei, a senior, has a 3.654 GPA in Management Information Systems. Both were also named to the Verizon Academic All-District VII Team.

Honorable mention awards went to Jill Peterson and Krista Unger.

- UNO volleyball Head Coach Rose Shires announces the signing of Milford High School middle blocker Alyssa Matthes. Matthes (5'-11") is a three-time Nebraska all-state honorable mention selection.

- The UNO athletic department's sixth annual

Northwestern Mutual Financial Network Maverick Classic golf tourney, originally scheduled for May 4 at Tiburon Golf Club, has been postponed until July 23. For more info, call Christa at 554-2506.

- Props to UNO Head Coach Mike Kemp has was elected vice president of the American Hockey Coaches Association. He is now in line to become the AHCA president in 2004.

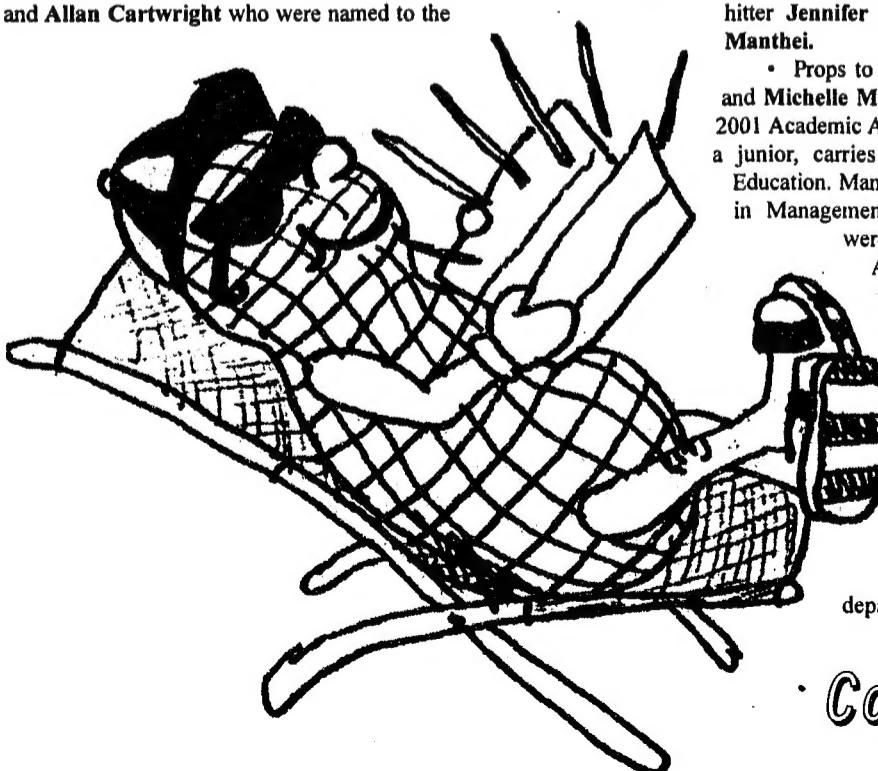
- Props to UNO track and field star Lindsey Hunter who not only finished fourth in the NCC Heptathlon Championships, but shattered the school record in doing so. Hunter's 4,657 points bettered the old UNO mark held by Sandy Derby. She is ranked No. 7 in the nation in Division II heptathlon.

- Props to junior hurler Kyle Funk who was named to the All-NCC Baseball Team. Funk recorded a 6-2 record for the Mavs and a 3.71 ERA.

- Props to Michelle Manthei, Tiffany Jones and Jennifer Carson who were all named to the Louisville Slugger/NFCA Division II All-American Team. Jennifer Redlinger was named to the NFCA Third Team.

- Props to Krista Unger, Sarah Scheppers, Kelly Moats and Kelsey Duckworth who were named to the NCAA Division II National Championship All-Tournament Team.

- Props to UNO golfer Stephanie Oster, the lone Mav representative at the NCAA II National Tournament. Oster's four-day total of 345 was good enough to land her in a tie for 32nd in the event. Florida Southern won the team title.



Congratulations Softball Players!

What would you like to see Mayor-elect Mike Fahey do when he is in office?



Annette Crowder
Multicultural
education specialist

"I want to see a youth forum established to discuss ideas with the mayor. We lose the younger generation in our city because they have nothing to do."



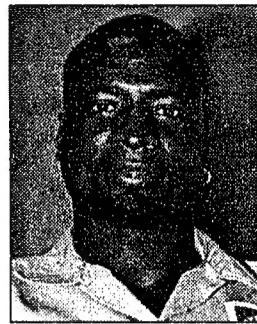
Katie Dean
Bookstore employee

"I want to see Omaha made into a big city and not so much like a small town."



Chrissy Cacioppo
Senior

"I want him to keep the convention center and 114th Street expressway projects going."



Ivan Duke
Custodian

"He needs to fix up the neighborhood streets."



Mary Connor
LPN, Student Health

"I want to see a park made with Hal Daub's name on it."



Josh White
Compliance Director

"I want to see more time devoted to improving midtown parks."

Former U. Minnesota prof pleads guilty in pornography case

Tim Sturrock
Minnesota Daily (U. Minnesota)

Richard Ivan Pervo, a former University of Minnesota professor, pleaded guilty Wednesday to possessing more than 4,200 images depicting children in sexual acts.

He received eight years probation and one year in a state workhouse for one count of distribution and five counts of possession of child pornography.

Pervo, 59, taught courses in the New Testament until mid-February. In an agreement with the Board of Regents, he resigned as chairman of the department of classical and Near Eastern studies and agreed to sever all ties with the University. In accordance with his sentence, he must now write a letter of apology to the University.

"I do want to express I have always been opposed to any exposure of minors to sexual acts. I deeply regret any involvement I had to perpetuate that," Pervo said at the hearing.

Other elements of Pervo's sentence were to continue counseling and to have no unsupervised contact with females under age 18. The felony convictions also mean Pervo must register as a sex offender.

He must also now allow law enforcement agents access to his personal computer for surprise inspections.

The sentence allows Pervo work and treatment release. He could face a prison sentence if he does not satisfy the terms of his eight-year probation.

from Thompson, page 1

Perhaps there will even be a change in how the council perceives its own job and responsibilities.

"The old council was too parochial in its thinking," Thompson said. "They just looked at their own district. The new council will get away from the 'my turf' mentality. I will role model the needs of the entire city."

To accomplish that, Thompson must be able to work across party lines. This is something he feels very comfortable doing, because he was once a Democrat himself.

"I teach human and race relations, and consider myself to be a persuasive speaker," Thompson said. "I've spoken with my fellow council members and I've received signals from the Democrats that they appreciate my approach."

Patching up the relationship between the council and the mayor's office is a priority, but certainly not the only item on his agenda. Thompson's view of the city involves both attracting tourism and improving transportation.

"I'd like for the people who own Six Flags or Adventureland to come in and open a theme park in Omaha. Of course, we'd have to do our homework first, and this may involve tax incentives. A perfect place for the new park would be somewhere along the river ... maybe north of Offutt or north of the airport. I'd also like to see a skyrail built running from the zoo to the new convention center. A skyrail would be better than a trolley system because it would take up less room and disrupt business less."

No politician is without his detractors, however, and Thompson is no exception. Some are worried his job at UNO will result in conflict of interest problems.

"If there were ever a time when my employment at UNO came up against the integrity of an issue, I would excuse myself from that vote," Thompson said. "I really don't see this as a problem. UNO already has three professors on local school boards, and there has not been a conflict of interest problem."

Thompson plans to teach classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Tuesdays and half of Thursdays are council work days. The rest of the time he plans to study issues, attend neighborhood association meetings and conduct a series of workshops throughout the city.

"I am a 'New Era Republican,' which is different from the traditional 'Old Guard Republican,'" Thompson said. "My goal is to refine what compassionate conservatism means. Right now that definition is too fuzzy. I want to work that concept into more of an invitational conservatism. I want to introduce people who live east of 72nd Street to another option open to them, one that is alluring and inviting."

If our politically divided city is to unite and prosper in the coming years, it will need a city council with character. Thompson believes this new council is the best start.

from Playstation, page 10

But what about the Geo-Mod technology? THQ has hyped it like Don King hypes Mike Tyson, and Volition, which developed the technology, has it trademarked. Is it really worth all the talk and paperwork?

Yes, it is. With Geo-Mod, players can inflict actual, real-time damage on their surroundings. When you fire a rocket at a wall, no longer does the rocket simply leave a black mark on the wall. Now, it's a big ol' hole. Fire another, and another, and pretty soon you've created yourself your own secret passageway.

You can't exactly destroy everything in sight—doors, for example, remain intact, as do platforms and contraptions integral to the game's progress—but the degree to which you can mold and destroy

your environment is awesome. Just wait until your first major battle wraps up in one of the bunkers, and check out the warzone you've created when the dust settles. Amazing.

Between tried-and-true gameplay and the cherry that is Geo-Mod, Red Faction presents a strong, capable shooter that, despite a dry stretch here and there, will satisfy the legions of PS2 gamers who have clamored for a game that can't be mastered inside of a weekend. Everything is laid out well, and the game, particularly when inside the mines, feels dusty, dirty and ugly, all in a good way. The game will not blow you away graphically, but it keeps up with the competition and almost never slows down the action.

Despite its innovations, Red Faction's one-player quest (and

respectable, if unspectacular, multiplayer capabilities) are right in line with the Half-Lifes and Perfect Darks of the world. That, of course, is not a bad thing at all, but gamers who have grown tired of first-person shooters will probably not change their tune here.

Fans of the genre, however, will most likely love this one. Red Faction may borrow from its brothers, but it still manages to present a fresh game all the same. And that's to say nothing of the Geo-Mod technology, which is the best thing to happen to shooters since the invention of the rail gun. The big three will all show up on the PS2 in short order, but until they arrive, Red Faction should do more than enough to keep the party going.

from Pop music, page 10

"Waterloo" and "Ring Ring," the cascading strings and sleek R&B drumming of "Dancing Queen."

The group's sometimes wince-inducing remedial-phonics vocals remind listeners that the quartet sang in their second language, but it also gave them an innocent, fairy-tale sweetness. Their albums were larded with filler, but the hits were built with the frigid majesty of a Swedish

mountain castle.

Little wonder that the group has achieved pop immortality. Nearly 20 years after their break-up, ABBA provide fodder for revivals both campy (Erasure's "ABBA-esque" tribute EP) and sincere (the career of the A-Teens). ABBA have not only been covered by their likeminded countrymen, Roxette, but by unlikely admirers such as Marshall Crenshaw

and U2. Even Nelson Mandela once announced that ABBA was his favorite pop group. And whenever I hear "S.O.S." a song with a melody so impossibly rich that it needs two choruses to resolve itself for exactly 3 minutes and 20 seconds they're my favorite pop group too. Nearly 20 years after the group's breakup, the music of ABBA still influences others.

Student robs bank to pay rent

TMS Campus

Without a job and short on cash, a University of Wisconsin student decided to remedy his situation by robbing a bank, according to a criminal complaint. Things didn't go as planned.

Police arrested Abdumajid M. Osman, 20, around 2:30 p.m. Thursday, May 24, after he made off with \$10,173 from a bank just off the Madison campus.

Osman told police he owed his landlord money and that "the best way [to get money] was to rob a bank," the complaint states.

Osman's financial woes began when he got word that a job he had been offered in Dallas, TX., had fallen through because of a hiring freeze, according to the complaint. He had expected an advance in the mail but found out he wouldn't be receiving it.

Osman's lawyer told the Associated Press that his client has no prior criminal record and is only six credits away from a computer science degree.

About three hours before robbing the bank, Osman told prosecutors that he had gone to a bookstore to study for his graduate school exams and began to think about how he could get money, the complaint states. After studying for about one and a half hours, Osman decided to rob a bank, according to the complaint.

After going to one bank and finding it too busy, Osman headed to another Madison bank and entered wearing a scarf around his face and holding a BB gun, the complaint states. Osman made off with \$10,173 in a backpack but was foiled when a customer sitting in the drive-thru spotted him driving off, according to the complaint.

The man called police and tailed Osman until authorities were able to catch up to him, according to the complaint.

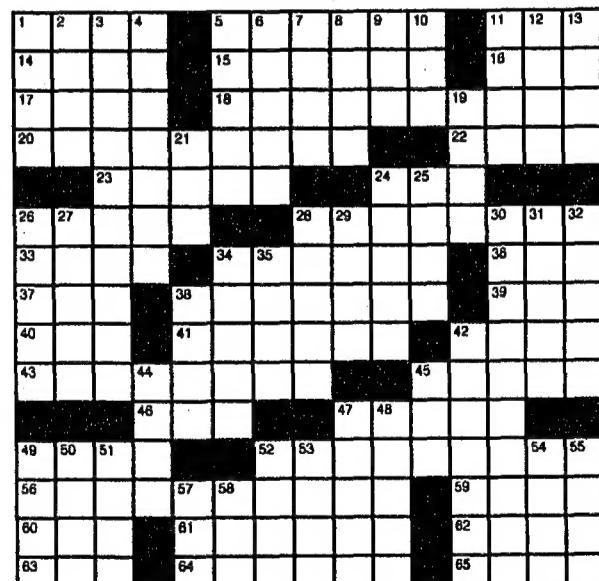
Police recovered the money, BB gun and backpack, in addition to a fake ID card Osman said he used to get into bars, the complaint states.

Osman is free after posting a \$2,500 cash bail Tuesday, May 29.

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Cause injury
- 5 "The Usual Suspects" Oscar winner
- 11 Manhandle
- 14 A Baldwin
- 15 Fulmination
- 16 Marksman
- 17 "Of ___ and Men"
- 18 Double-checks
- 20 Criteria
- 22 Criterion
- 23 Ship fronts
- 24 Comic Costello
- 26 Suppress: slang
- 28 County law enforcers
- 33 False alternative?
- 34 Self-confidence
- 36 Metric square measure
- 37 Paddle
- 38 "___ and Cressida"
- 39 Prevarication
- 40 Any person
- 41 Jack the
- 42 Pronto letters
- 43 Puts into a willing state
- 45 Declares
- 46 Gob's yes
- 47 Citrus fruits
- 49 Front of the calf
- 52 Makes seem less serious
- 56 Fatal epidemic
- 59 Bring to heel
- 60 Samovar
- 61 Loveseat, e.g.
- 62 Ms. Bombeck
- 63 Profit figure
- 64 Derisive looks
- 65 Comic Laurel



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Solutions

1 Lousy thespians	9 Harris and Wynn
2 Touched down	10 Informal assent
3 Takes back	11 Walk with worry
4 John of tennis	12 Deeds
5 Barn bedding	13 Sunset direction
6 Boardwalk extensions	19 Pin box
7 Desiccated	21 Adams or McLean
8 Fires	24 Madagascar primate
	25 Spheres
	26 Got to one's feet
	27 Shiraz resident
	28 Loses traction
	29 Green target
	30 Reason for a do-over
	31 Mendicant man
	32 Oozes
	34 Turn up
	35 Gandolfo
	38 Helen of ___
	42 Flies
	44 Breathe shallowly
	45 Ms. MacGraw
	47 Digestive
	disorder
	48 Joys
	49 Rotated rapidly
	50 Roll-call response
	51 Say it ___ so!
	52 Sampras or
	Seeger
	53 Feed the kitty
	54 Soprano Calve
	55 Connelly or Young
	57 NASA outpost
	58 Ex-QB Dawson

'Pimp' novel reveals downfalls of living it up

Kenny Chang
Daily Bruin (U. California-LA)

"Pimp: The Story of My Life" is a semi-autobiographical novel that chronicles the life of a street pimp from the 1930s to post-World War II.

"Pimp" is author Iceberg Slim's first novel, after serving three stints in prison. Recounting his life experiences from birth until the writing of the novel, Iceberg takes readers into the underbelly of urban grime. This book is not for the blissfully ignorant.

"Pimp" reveals to the world the inner-workings of a pimp's mind. From his first sexual experiences to the evolution of his moniker, the novel provides a dismal perspective on the glamorized lifestyle of a hustler.

Written entirely in the "street language" of the times, the book comes with a glossary detailing all the meanings of various words. Iceberg tells it as it is, and does not leave out any of the filthy details.

"Pimp" is written straight, poured out of a reformed man's bitter heart. Every aspect of each scene is told thoroughly. The sights and the smells are all made apparent and the reader can almost sense the thick stench of its greasy plot.

The novel is full of grief — the

grief of losing two fathers, of watching Iceberg's mother swindle these men, the grief of whores who are displayed as they are "turned out" on the street. Even reformed, "squared up" prostitutes can be tempted from righteousness back to whoring out their bodies.

It is apparent that Iceberg Slim regrets his past. He remarks that he had wasted "half a lifetime in a worthless, dangerous profession." Yet, he does not forget to indicate his early eagerness when beginning "the game."

The story starts off with him as a young bright-eyed child, full of love and kindness, and shows the evolution of a pimp who's as emotionless as an "iceberg." The novel, like many true stories, has few sentimental moments. Rather, it contains many scenes of Iceberg violently attacking one of his prostitutes.

The novel tells the story of a Midwest street pimp — blood, sex and drugs are common, and the reader is shown how dismal they can be. Contrary to what some may think, this is not a manual on how to become a pimp. It is a true story on the problematic issues of pimping. The only lesson it teaches is the regret of a "successful" pimp.

Iceberg maneuvered the streets

and came out alive. He learned from everyone around him and adapted best to what was necessary at that time. In prison, he did what he needed to stay sane. He enriched his mind with literature, and managed to avoid the grasp of insanity. Upon his third arrest, he came out of prison a reformed man to write "Pimp."

"Pimp" is filled with vibrant characters so real that this documentation must be an understatement.

The plot takes the course of a human life, and though not incredibly dramatic in terms of tragedies and literature, it is quite a tale, considering it was real.

Interlaced with profanities and the degradation of women, "Pimp" may never be an Oprah Winfrey "Book of the Month." However, it should be taken into account that this is a "book of life." Iceberg Slim, whose real name is Robert Beck, honestly pours out his story, hoping to educate the world.

"Pimp: The Story of My Life" is a daunting book on the reality of the world we live in. Given that it is autobiographical, it leaves the reader with a sense of unease, yet leaves the possibility of hope. If a former drug-abusing pimp who has been to prison three times survived to make it, there is hope for everyone else just yet.

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